Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-10 AGRE-00 IO-14 ICA-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /119 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/OFP/FPD-FMCELDOWNEY:ML APPROVED BY EB/ORF/OFP-JOHN FERCH AID/IIA - H SMITH (SUBS)

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P 192137Z APR 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 100584

FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OCON

SUBJECT: FAO FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE SCHEME (FSAS)

REF: (A) ROME 7210, (B) ROME 7142,(C) STATE 97924

- 1. USG WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN INFORMAL DONORS' EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 28. DEPENDING ON DEVELOPMENTS AT MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY(CWFS), REPRESENTATIVES CAN BE DRAWN FROM DELEGATIONS TO CWFS AND FODAG MISSION STAFF AS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE.
- 2. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS PRESENT SUMMARY US POSITION ON FSAS. THIS INFORMATION MAY BE USED BY FODAG IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AND AS GUIDANCE IN FAO/AID CONSULTATIONS. CWFS DELEGATION WILL BE PREPARED TO EXPAND UPON OUR UNCLASSIFIED

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POSITION.

3. USG VIEWS FSAS AS CATALYST FOR FORMULATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY FOOD SECURITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION ON FOOD SECURITY PROJECTS, COORDINATOR OF INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND SOURCE OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.

- 4. USG WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH FSAS BY COORDINATING 3ILATERAL ACTIVITIES AND BY DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO AND THROUGH SCHEME WHEN APPROPRIATE. PARTICIPATION IN ANY FSAS PROJECT WILL DEPEND ON THE MERITS OF THE SPECIFIC CASE.
- 5. WHILE USG RECOGNIZES SOME COUNTRIES MAY WISH TO MAKE EXTENSIVE USE FSAS FOR EXECUTING PROJECTS, SUBSTANTIAL US BILATERAL CAPACITY PRECLUDES THE NEED FOR OUR DOING SO.
- 6. USG DOES NOT SHARE VIEW THAT FSAS NEEDS TO CONTROL SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF RESOURCES TO DO ITS JOB. IN PARTICULAR, US IS UNWILLING TO MAKE "GENERAL PURPOSE" CONTRIBUTIONS TO FSAS, TO PLEDGE RESOURCES TO SCHEME TWO YEARS IN ADVANCE OR ENDORSE TRANSFERS OF RESOURCES FROM IBRD, UNDP, WPF AND OTHER BODIES TO FSAS CONTROL. WE ALSO BELIEVE FSAS SHOULD AVOID DUPLICATING RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAMS SUCH AS WFP, SPECIAL FUND FOR POST-HARVEST LOSSES AND GLOBAL INFORMATION AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM. CHRISTOPHER

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